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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/519,151

10/14/2005

Audun Opem

43315-211929

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26694

7590

06/23/2008

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EXAMINER

WANG, RONGFA PHILIP

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2191

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

06/23/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/519,151	Applicant(s) OPEM ET AL.	
	Examiner PHILIP WANG	Art Unit 2191	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 March 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/14/2005</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to amendment filed on 3/14/2008.
2. Per Applicant's request, claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 7 have been amended; and claims 8 and 9 canceled.
3. Claims 1-7 remain pending in this application.

Information Disclosure Statement

4. In view of the Applicant's showing of relevance, DE19857683 is now considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

5. The previous rejections of 7-9 have been withdrawn in view of the Applicant's amendment/cancellation to the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

6. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it

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is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

The specification is not enabling for the subject matter "the compiler is revalidated for any errors introduced between the first and the second compilation" because the specification does not provide any steps or information regarding how the compiler is revalidated for any errors introduced between the first and the second compilation. The Specification appears to use CRC and checksum to detect alteration in data. However, to the best of the examiner's knowledge, CRC was invented by W. Wesley Peterson, CRCs while useful for error detection, CRCs cannot be safely relied upon to fully verify data correctness. Therefore, the claim language of revalidating any errors appears to lack of support. To overcome this rejection, the Applicant must prove the CRC/checksum used can actually detect all errors due to alteration to the original data.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-2, 6-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McKeeman et al. (US Pat. 5,754,860; the reference was revealed in Applicant's IDS filed on 10/14/2005), hereinafter "McKeeman", in view of Schmitt et al. (US Pub. # 2002/0046397 A1),

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hereinafter "Schmitt".

As for claim 1, McKeeman discloses:

A method, the method comprising:

compiling a test program a first time which test program is defined in a control language (FIG. 2 and Col. 1, lines 23-40);

validating the compiler and the compiler execution environment by verifying that the test program executes correctly (Col. 1, lines 23-40);

generating a first software means derived from the compiled test program intended for later comparison purposes (FIG. 2);

compiling the test program a second time (FIG. 2);

compiling a program after the compilation of a user-written program (FIGs. 13-15 and Col. 30, lines 7-17);

generating a second software means intended for a comparison based on the second compilation of the test program (FIG. 2 and Col. 6, lines 50-65);

comparing the first software means with the second software means (FIGs. 2 and 5b); wherein the compiler and the compiler execution environment are revalidated for any errors introduced between the first and the second compilation (FIGs. 13-15 and 16a, Col. 1, lines 23-40, Col. 6, lines 47-49 and 60-65);

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enabling, provided that the revalidation indicates no errors in the compiler and the compiler execution environment, the user-written program to execute in a device (Col. 1, lines 23-40 and Col. 6, lines 47-49 and 60-65; note that when a compiler is validated, any program compiled by the validated compiler should be allowed to execute in a device).

However, McKeeman does not explicitly disclose:

the user-written program to execute in a device with safety features for control of real world entities.

On the other hand, Schmitt discloses:

the user-written program to execute in a device with safety features for control of real world entities (computer programs for industrial controllers, in particular motion controllers, ABSTRACT, lines 1-3 and FIGs. 4-5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to combine the teachings of McKeeman with the teachings of Schmitt by enabling the user-written program to execute in a device with safety features for control of real world entities in order to control an industrial process programmable controller (PLC), or programming the motion controller of a processing machine or production Machine (Schmitt, [0007]).

As for claim 2, McKeeman discloses:

the comparing step is performed in the same workstation or general-purpose computer as that in which the compiler is executing (FIGs. 1-2).

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As for claim 4, McKeeman discloses:

the comparing step is performed in the device (FIGs. 1-2),

and Schmitt discloses:

the device with safety features (computer programs for industrial controllers, in particular motion controllers, ABSTRACT, lines 1-3 and FIGs. 4-5).

As for claim 6, McKeeman discloses:

the test program is defined in a control language (FIG. 2 and Col. 6, lines 33-35),

and Schmitt discloses:

a control language derived from the standard IEC 6-1131 ([0037], lines 2-6).

As for claim 7, the claim is rejected for the same reason as set forth in the rejection of claim 1.

8. Claims 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McKeeman in View of Schmitt, and further in view of Frey et al. (US Pub. # 2003/0135842 A1), hereinafter "Frey".

As for claim 3, both McKeeman and Schmitt do not explicitly disclose,

the software means is a check-sum or a code for cyclic redundancy check.

However, Frey discloses:

the software means is a check-sum or a code for cyclic redundancy check ([0141]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to combine the teachings of McKeeman and Schmitt with the teachings of Frey by having the software means to be a check-sum or a code for cyclic redundancy check in order to verify that the source code file has not been tampered with (Frey, [0141]).

As for claim 4, McKeeman discloses:

the comparing step is performed in the device (FIGs. 1-2),

and Schmitt discloses:

the device with safety features (computer programs for industrial controllers, in particular motion controllers, ABSTRACT, lines 1-3 and FIGs. 4-5).

9. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McKeeman and Schmitt in view of Frey, and further in view of Moiler et al. (US Pat. 6,598,074 B1), hereinafter "Moller".

As for claim 5, none of McKeeman, Schmitt, and Frey explicitly discloses:

an additional step of downloading a variable that changes over time, which is downloaded in the same message as the check-sum or code to the device, where the variable that changes over time is used to achieve a change in the message.

However, Moiler discloses:

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an additional step of downloading a first information, which is downloaded in the same message as a second information to the device (Col. 10, lines 3-8 and FIGs. 1-2);

the variable that changes over time is used to achieve a change in the message (this message contains a timestamp, Col. 11, lines 12-14; note that timestamp is considered as a variable and for different time, timestamp is different);

a first information is a variable that changes over time (timestamp, Col. 11, lines 12-14); and a second information is the check-sum or code (Col. 10, lines 3-8).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to combine the teachings of McKeeman, Schmitt, and Frey with the teachings of Moiler by comprising an additional step of downloading a variable that changes over time, which is downloaded in the same message as the check-sum or code to the device, where the variable that changes over time is used to achieve a change in the message in order to control an industrial process programmable controller (PLC), or programming the motion controller of a processing machine or production Machine (Schmitt, [0007]).

Response to Arguments

In the remark,

1) The Applicant argues – recited prior arts do not suggest testing a compiler, Specifically,

“McKeemman et al. do not suggest testing a compiler. Rather, McKeeman et al. more accurately suggests testing software.”

1) Examiner's response –

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McKeenman et al. col. 1, lines 29-35, specifically states, "...test program...is used to test a corresponding compiler...Certain behavior is expected of the compiler while compiling a test program..." Regarding the limitation of "the compiler execution environment" as in "the compiler and the compiler execution environment", the examiner considers if there is any errors introduced due to the compiler execution environment, the second software means would be different from the first software means.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Philip Wang whose telephone number is 571-272-5934. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri 8:00 - 4:00PM. Any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC2100 Group receptionist: 571-272-2100.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wei Zhen can be reached on 571-272-3708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Wei Zhen/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2191